

23rd Annual  
Geography Awareness Week  
Poster Contest

# Freshwater



**November 14-20, 2010**

*Presented by the Texas Alliance for Geographic Education*

# The Texas Alliance for Geographic Education

*proudly presents*

## The 23rd Annual Geography Awareness Week Poster Contest

**November 14-20, 2010** has been designated as *National Geography Awareness Week*. Each year, the Texas Alliance for Geographic Education (TAGE) hosts a statewide poster contest for K-12 students during Geography Awareness Week. This year's poster contest theme is:

### **Freshwater is Life**

Freshwater concepts are geographic by nature, and there is a myriad of possibilities in terms of what your students can focus on when making their posters. Posters will be judged based on creativity and geographic content. Judging rubrics are included in the rules and information packet on the TAGE website. The judging rubrics will be used as a guide for the judges in determining the quality and functionality of a poster.

There is no substitute for water. We use it to grow food, keep clean, stay healthy, and produce energy, computers, clothing, and virtually every manufactured good on the planet. The average American diet alone demands an estimated 1,320 gallons of water a day, once you account for the irrigation of thirsty crops and the huge water costs associated with raising animals and processing meat. Below is a list of potential topics.

Water Sources: Where does freshwater come from? (examples - water cycle, aquifers, natural springs, geysers, wells, hot springs, river systems, watershed)

Transporting Water: How does freshwater get to you? (examples - pumping stations, water treatment facilities, sewage systems, showers, faucets, channels, canals)

Water Storage: How is water stored? (examples - reservoirs, water towers, rainwater collection)

Recreation: How do people use water for recreation? (examples - swimming pools, water parks, lakes, rivers)

Irrigation: How is water used to irrigate crops? What crops use more water, which ones use less? (crop water consumption)

-How do the different kinds of irrigation work? (examples - surface irrigation, localized irrigation, sprinkler irrigation, center-pivot irrigation, lateral move irrigation, sub irrigation, manual irrigation)

Waste/Pollution: How is water used in the disposal of waste? How can freshwater become polluted through human activity? How can water pollution affect people? (examples - acid rain, polluted watersheds, diseases, other sanitation issues)

Manufacturing: How is water used in manufacturing? How does manufacturing affect freshwater supply?

Water as a Power Source: Why are hydroelectric dams reliant on fresh water? How do hydroelectric dams work? What role does water play in the production of nuclear energy? How is water affected in the production of energy?

Political: How do people agree or disagree on water allocation (use)? How are waterways used as political boundaries? Surface water versus groundwater rights?

This list is not exhaustive, and feel free to explore other topics related to freshwater as well.

### **Contest Dates:**

1. Wednesday, October 13: Deadline for Campus Poster Registration
2. Friday, October 29: Campus-level Winning Posters Due at Texas Alliance Headquarters (at or before 8 AM)
3. Tuesday, November 3: State-level Poster Judging
4. November 14-20: Geography Awareness Week
5. Wednesday, November 17: Capital Ceremony (9:30-11:00 AM)

**RULES and INSTRUCTIONS:**

1. To be eligible for the poster contest, a registration form (attached) must be submitted by each participating K-12 campus by **October 13, 2010**, to the Texas Alliance for Geographic Education at Texas State University-San Marcos via fax(512.245.1653), or e-mail (**TexasAlliancePosterContest@gmail.com**). (Note: This is **one** registration form per campus, **not for each category nor for each teacher.**)
2. Colored pens, pencils, crayons, paints, or a combination thereof, may be used. Collages and computer-assisted designs are acceptable, but must reflect an original design/concept of the student. Photo credits are required, especially for images taken from copyrighted sources.
3. Posters must be **NO LARGER THAN 22” x 28”**. Posters can be constructed on any type of material the student chooses (poster board, foam board, wood, cardboard, etc...) as long as it is not larger than 22”x28” and can be delivered to the Texas Alliance’s office. 3D posters are also acceptable.
4. **The following heading MUST be included somewhere on the front of the poster:**

**Freshwater is Life  
Geography Awareness Week  
November 14-20, 2010**

**The spelling and date must be correct on the front of the poster to be eligible for the contest.**

5. The following information **must** be typed or printed on the **back** of the poster (You may cut this template out and paste it on the back of the poster):

<b>Student’s First Name:</b>	<b>Student’s Last Name:</b>
<b>Student’s Grade Level:</b>	<b>School Name:</b>
<b>Teacher’s Name:</b>	<b>Principal’s Name:</b>
<b>Teacher’s E-mail:</b>	<b>Principal’s E-mail:</b>

**6. Judging of posters at the school level:**

Each school has the responsibility of choosing **one winner per category, per school**. Students from public or private school can participate if their schools have registered for the poster contest. Home-schooled students are eligible to participate in the contest. In this case, each family or home-school group would be considered a “school,” and each family or home-school group has the **responsibility of choosing one winner per category**.

Campus Contest Coordinators may establish their own criteria to select campus level winners. Keep in mind the contest requirements and criteria used by the judges in the state-wide competition (below), and set campus judging criteria accordingly. Every year a few posters are disqualified before judging begins because they failed to meet a requirement, so follow the rules carefully!

There will be **FOUR** categories of poster entrants, according to the following grade levels:

**K-2                      3-5                      6-8                      9-12**

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7. Each campus should send their winning poster in each applicable category to arrive at the Texas Alliance for Geographic Education's headquarters **no later than 8:00 a.m.** on Friday, **October 29, 2010**, at the address below:

2010 Texas Alliance Statewide Poster Contest  
Texas Alliance for Geographic Education  
Texas State University-San Marcos  
601 University Drive  
San Marcos, TX 78666

**Late posters will be disqualified, no exceptions.** It is the responsibility of the Campus Contest Coordinator to ensure that posters arrive in time for judging. Please do not ask for extensions.

8. Entries should be mailed flat. **DO NOT SEND POSTERS ROLLED IN A MAILING TUBE.**
9. The campus winners will be judged against other campus winners from across the state.

The Texas Alliance for Geographic Education will announce statewide winners immediately following the judging. An awards ceremony will be held in Austin at the Capitol Building in honor of the state-wide winners along with their families, teachers, and school administrators. The awards ceremony is tentatively scheduled for **November 17, 2010, at 9:30 a.m.**

10. **All posters submitted to the Texas Alliance for Geographic Education become the property of the organization and will not be returned.**

## PRIZES:

A master copy of the *Certificate of Participation* will be e-mailed to participating schools. It may be duplicated for presentation to all students entering the school contest.

Prizes for school competitions are the responsibility of individual schools.

State Finalist certificates will be available for each student that had a poster sent to the Texas Alliance for the state-wide judging. Certificates will be e-mailed to the student's teacher.

Prizes for the winners of the state-wide competition in each category are provided by the Texas Alliance for Geographic Education and other sponsors. Prizes are awarded to the 1st-4th place winners in each grade division, as well as to the winning teachers.

For further information and/or questions contact the Texas Alliance for Geographic Education at 512.245.3827 or [TexasAlliancePosterContest@gmail.com](mailto:TexasAlliancePosterContest@gmail.com).

**CAMPUS REGISTRATION FORM**  
(This form is due by Wednesday, October 13, 2010)

*Please type or print;*

Campus Name	Campus Phone
District Name	Campus Fax
Campus Contest Coordinator	E-mail Address
Campus Address	Campus Principal
City	Number of Teachers Participating
Zip Code	Approx. Total No. of Students Participating in the Campus

**Return to:**

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Texas Alliance for Geographic Education  
Texas State University-San Marcos  
601 University Drive  
San Marcos, TX 78666

Fax: 512-245-1653

E-Mail: [TexasAlliancePosterContest@gmail.com](mailto:TexasAlliancePosterContest@gmail.com)